

1940
BRITISH EMBASSY, BAGDAD.

File No.: 289.

Name of File:—

BAHRAIN:

OFFICIALS.

(No minutes to be written here.)

LAST Year's File No.: 208/38.

NEXT Year's File No.: 92.

Copy to AMU "FOR ORS" REF 00289/22/40.

٩٣٩ | ١٠٠ / ٢٦٣٣ / ٢٦٣٣ | الرقق

بغداد في ١٩٤٠ / ١٢ / ٢



الحكومة العراقية

وزاره الخارجيه

مديرية امور القنصلية

تهدى وزارة الخارجية تحياتها الى سفارة صاحب الجلالة البريطانية في بغداد وبالإشارة الى مذكرة السفارة المرقمة ٥٦٨ والمؤرخة في ١٩٤٠ / ١١ / ٢١ تتشرف بان تطلب اليها التفضل بأعلامها عن تاريخ تولد ومحل سكنا ضباط الصف الاربعة المذكورة اسماؤهم في مذكرة السفارة المشار اليها في اعلاه والذى وقع عليهم الاختيار لاستخدامهم لدى حكومة البحرين وذلك ليتسنى للمراجع العراقية المختصة النظر في امرهم .

تنتهي الوزارة هذه الفرصة للأعراب عن فائق تقديرها واحترامها .



سفارة صاحب الجلالة البريطانية

بغداد

No. 2633/2633/100/20939.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Bagdad, 12th December, 1940.

289 | 22 | 40 { The Ministry of Foreign Affairs present their compliments to His Britannic Majesty's Embassy, Bagdad, and, with reference to the Embassy's note No. 568 dated 21st November, 1940, have the honour to request that the Ministry may kindly be furnished of birth date and place of residence of the four non-commissioned officers mentioned in the Embassy's ^{under reference note}, and selected for employment with the Government of Bahrain, in order that the appropriate Iraqi authorities may be able to consider their case.

The Ministry avail themselves, etc.

Contra No. 289 23 | 40 d. 14 Dec. 1940

Copy & AMQ 14 Dec. 1940 (- 22 / -)

AMQ

14/٢٢
١٢/١١ ص

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● Copy to AHQ comps 21/11/40 ref. 289/20/40.

3

No. 568.

Note Verbale.

His Majesty's Embassy presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, with reference to their Note Verbale No. 2633/2633/100/19896 of the 18th November regarding the secondment for service in Bahrain of Zabit Alwan ibn Firhan, has the honour to state that the Bahrain Government desire to recruit four Iraq Levy Arab non-commissioned officers for service with the Bahrain Special Police Force. The Air Officer Commanding British Forces in Iraq who has been approached by the Bahrain Government has provisionally selected the following four non-commissioned officers :-

Lance Corporal Hameed Moosa.

Lance Corporal Jabbar Ziger.

Lance Corporal Hassan Mukhtar.

Lance Corporal Nasir Faisil.

2. The Embassy has the honour to enquire whether the Iraqi Government will agree to these non-commissioned officers proceeding to Bahrain for this purpose and will authorise the Passport Officer at Basra to issue to them the necessary travel documents in order that they may leave for Bahrain as early as possible. The Bahrain Government are prepared to deposit with the Iraqi Government, in respect of each non-commissioned officer, a monetary guarantee liable to forfeiture in the event of his failure to return to Iraq if called up for military service.

3. The guarantee of D75 in respect of Zabit Alwan ibn Firhan is at present held by Air Headquarters and will be transmitted to whichever Iraqi authority the Iraqi Government wish to designate.

His Majesty's Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew the expression of its highest consideration.

British Embassy,
Bagdad,
21st November, 1940.

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Bahrain : Officials.

289 | 21 | 40.

الرقم ق / ٢٦٣٣ / ٢٦٣٣ / ١٥٢٧٢

بغداد في ٢١ تشرين الثاني ١٩٤٠

Copy to Bahrain with comps. d/
" AHQ " (ref.-/19/-)الحكومة العراقية ٤
وزاراة الخارجية
مديرية الامور القنصلية

تهدى وزارة الخارجية تحياتها الى سفارة صاحب الجلالة البريطانية في بغداد والاعقا بعذكرة الوزارة المرقمة ق/ ٢٦٣٣ / ١٠٠ / ١٥٢٧٢
والمورخة في ١٩٤٠ / ٨ / ١٩ تشرف باعلامها ان الدوائر العراقية المختصة قد
منحت العراقي الضابط علوان فرحان جواز سفر وقد غادر به الى البحرين
بتاريخ ١٩٤٠ / ٩ / ١٩ على ظهر الملاحة باريتا .
تنتهي الوزارة هذه الفرصة للاعراب عن فائق تقديرها واحترامها .



سفارة صاحب الجلالة البريطانية
— بغداد —

No. 2633/2633/100/19896.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Bagdad, 18th November, 1940.

289 | 19 | 40 {

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs present their
compliments to His Britannic Majesty's Embassy, Bagdad,
and, in continuation of the Ministry's note
No. 2633/2633/100/15272 dated 19th August, 1940,
have the honour to state that the appropriate Iraqi
departments granted Alwan Farhan, an Iraqi officer,
a passport by which he left for Bahrain on 9th
September, 1940, on board S.S. Barbita.

The Ministry etc.

26/11/1940
C/289 to Bahrain
Compt No 289 21 Nov 1940
Fwd by AMQ tel (-191-)
2/1+

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SECRET

Bahrain Officials

289 | 20 | 40

Telegraphic address:—

AIRGENARCH, HABBANIYA



AIR HEADQUARTERS,

5

BRITISH FORCES IN 'IRAQ,

HABBANIYA,
'IRAQ.

Reference No.:—

S.12584/P.3.

Date..... 15th November, 1940.

Subject:—

TRANSFER OF 'IRAQ LEVY PERSONNEL TO BAHREIN
SPECIAL POLICE FORCE.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to previous correspondence regarding the transfer, after discharge, of Zabit ALWAN ibn FARHAN from the 'Iraq Levies to the Bahrain Special Police Force, and to inform you that the Political Resident, Persian Gulf, on behalf of the Bahrain Government, has asked for a further four Iraq Levy Arab N.C.Os for this Force. The following N.C.Os have volunteered for the appointment, and in view of the importance and urgency attached to this matter by the Political Resident, Persian Gulf, I am eager that the necessary passport and guarantee arrangements be completed as soon as possible, to facilitate their early transfer to Bahrain

:-

5870. L/Cpl. Hameed Moosa.
5227. " Jabbar Zigar.
5683. " Hassan Mukhtar.
5523. " Nasir Faisil.

2. I would request, therefore, that you press the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for an early decision in the case, and arrange for the necessary passports and visas to be issued, and state the sum to be guaranteed by the Bahrain Government, in respect of each N.C.O., which will be forfeited in the event of his non-return to 'Iraq if called up for military service. The guarantee of £75, in respect of Zabit ALWAN ibn FARHAN, is held at this Headquarters, and can be handed to the Ministry of Defence or to such 'Iraqi authority as wishes to hold it.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

J. F. Smart

ASK

19/xi

The British Embassy,
Baghdad.

J. F. Smart
Air Vice Marshal,
Commanding, British Forces in 'Iraq.

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Bahrain Officials 289/19/40

١٥٥٢ Copy to
الرقم ق/٢٣٢٦٢/٠٠

بغداد في ١٩٤٠ / ٨ /

An oval-shaped black and white stamp. The top arc of the oval contains the text "BRITISH EMBASSY" and the bottom arc contains "BAGDAD". In the center of the oval is the date "19 AUG 1940" with a checkmark above it. There are decorative elements: a small floral emblem on the left and two dots on the right.

مسنون

مديرية الامور القنصلية

٦

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

تهدى وزارة الخارجية تحياتها الى سفارة صاحب الجلالة البريطانية
في بغداد وبالإشارة الى مذكرة السفارة المرقمة ٣٦٣ والمؤرخة في
٨/٨/١٩٤٠ تتشرف باعلامها ان الجهات العراقية المختصة قد اوعزت
الى دائرة الجوازات في البصرة بمنح الضابط علوان بن فرحان الباسبورت
اللازم لسفره وستعلم الوزارة المحترمة بما يتم في هذا الشأن .

تنشر الوزارة هذه الفرصة للأعراب عن فائق تقديرها واحترامها.



سفارة صاحب الجلة الروطنية

بغداد

Urgent.

No. 3633/2633/100/15272.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Bagdad, 19th August, 1940.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs present their
compliments to His Britannic Majesty's Embassy, Bagdad,
and, with reference to the Embassy's note No. 363 dated
8th August, 1940, have the honour to state that the
appropriate Iraqi authorities have instructed the Passport
Office, Basra, to grant Officer Alwan bin Farhan the
passport necessary for his journey. The Ministry will
inform the esteemed Embassy of the action to follow in
that connection.

in ~~the~~ ^{the} connection.
1. ~~salid~~ 110 d. 29 Aug

the Ministry avail themselves etc.

Jan' 1900 6
Wife. T. M. 2018

1/18 مصطفى كمال 1918

Copy with comps to AHQ.

" " " " Mil. Mission.

" " " " C.R. Grice, Esq. (My of Interior)

7

~~SECRET~~

~~NO. 320.~~

Note Verbale.

289 | 14 | 40 His Majesty's Embassy presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, with reference to their Note Verbale No. 2633/2633/100/13730 of the 16th July, has the honour to state that according to further information Zabit Alwan ibn Fikham is not required for ordinary police duties in Bahrain but for the training of a new local military force in picket and patrol duty of a military as distinct from a police character: his duties, in fact, would be those for which, as an Iraq Levy officer, he would be specially qualified.

289 | 16 | 40 2. In view of the foregoing, the Embassy will be grateful if the Ministry will use their good offices in moving the competent authorities to reconsider their decision and permit Zabit Alwan ibn Fikham to proceed to Bahrain by the next slow mail steamer which leaves Basra on the 26th instant.

His Majesty's Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew the expression of its highest consideration.



British Embassy.

Bagdad.

19th July, 1940.

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Bahrain 888-289/16/40
Form 248 (Medium)

From:—

Air Headquarters,
British Forces in 'Iraq.

To:—

British Embassy,
Baghdad.

Date:—

18th July, 1940.

Ref:—

S.10547/Air O.

SECRET.

8

Levy Officer for Bahrein Police Force.

1. With reference to the Note from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Baghdad, to British Embassy, Baghdad, No. 2633/2633/100/13750, dated 16th July, 1940, and forwarded to this Headquarters under cover of your 289/14/40, dated 16th July, 1940.

2. I enclose a copy of a Cypher Signal (No. 239 d/d 17/7) from P.A., Bahrein. If it can be arranged, it is requested that every effort be made to obtain sanction for this Arab Levy Officer to leave Basrah on Friday, 26th July, 1940.


Air Vice Marshal,
Commanding, British Forces in 'Iraq.

S E C R E T
CYpher MESSAGE.

1940. 9

To: A.H.Q. Iraq.
From: A.L.O. BAHREIN.

w/T Ordinary.

*239
13
40* Following from P.A. BAHREIN . Begins . " 239 17/7 .
Your A499 16/7 Para 2. Neither Sheik BAHREIN nor I
should be prepared to have an 'IRAQI Police Officer . Task
for which ALWAN is required train entire new local irregular
military force in picket and patrol duty of military as
distinct
district police type, i.e. in exactly those duties in
which Levies excel . Para 3. If 'IRAQI Government
refuses exit permit for ALWAN there is nothing more to be
done, but perhaps Embassy could point out parallel of
offering a veterinary to someone who wanted a doctor ."

T O O 0958

Bahrain Officials

289/15/40

CYPHER - SECRET.

A. 499 10

To:- P.A., BAHREIN (R)
R.A.F. Station, BASRAH.

28 16.7.40.

From:- A.H.Q., 'IRAQ.

V/T. Ordinary.

Reference A.L.O'se A.17 9th July. Embassy
state delay in sanction departure ALWAN now
due to Ministry of Interior who are taking
line quote why should not an 'IRAQI Police
officer be sent instead of Levy Officer unquote.
Signal your views giving details of proposed
duties and stressing any which require special
previous military training for which Police
officer would not be suitable. BASRAH
pass to Major HALL.

ASR.

18/VII

AS: M/17

TOO 0732 GMT.

Advise

Major G.S.O. II

Copy to:- 'Iraq Levies, H.A.M.
British Embassy, BAGHDAD.

CYPHER SECTION
AIR HEADQUARTERS

16 JUL 1940

RAQ COMMAND

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Bahrain

Officials

289/14/40

Copy to Major Rose (AHQ) comps ref. 289/9/40

١٣٢٥/١٠٠/٢٦٣٣/٢٦٣٣ الرقم

بغداد في ١٩٤٠ م تموز



الحكومة العراقية
وزاراة الخارجية
مديرية الامور القنصلية

تهدى وزارة الخارجية تحياتها الى سفارة صاحب الجلالة
البريطانية في بغداد وبالإشارة الى مذكرة السفارة المرقمة ٢٧٦
والمعروضة في ٢٠ حزيران ١٩٤٠ تتشرف بانباءها بان علوان بن فرحان
المرشح للقيام بالخدمة التي اشارت اليها السفارة في مذكوريها المشار
اليها اعلاه لم يكن من منتسبي الشرطة وليس لديه خبرة باعمالها
وعليه لا تحال الوزارة انه يمكن الاستفادة منه للفرض المطلوب
ولا ترى فائدة في ارساله.

تنتهي الوزارة هذه الفرصة للاعراب عن فائق تقديرها واحترامها.



سفارة صاحب الجلالة البريطانية

—بغداد—

No. 2633/2633/100/13750.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Bagdad, 16th July, 1940.

289/9/40. { The Ministry of Foreign Affairs present their
compliments to His Britannic Majesty's Embassy,
Bagdad, and, with reference to the Embassy's note
No. 276 dated 20th June, 1940, have the honour to
state that Alwan ibn Farhan, the person nominated
to undertake the service alluded to in the Embassy's
note under reference, is not a member of the police
force and has no experience in police work.
Accordingly it does not appear to the Ministry that
this individual can be employed to advantage for
the required purpose, nor can they see any benefit
in sending him out.

The Ministry avail themselves etc.

Has spoken to Major Rose: his
reply is coming on tomorrow's aircraft.

18/7

Copy 10 Major Rose, AHQ
with my comps. ref. 289/9/40
submit

INDEX

H. P. C

Ref. 289/9/40.

12

Yusif al-Sidani has promised
to get whoever deals with
this in the May. to bring
up the authorities. I
emphasize the fact that
we wanted the heavy pieces
to leave by the next slow
and sailing on Friday
the 12th.

"17. As facts 8/VI 1961 8/7

289

Bahrain Officials 289 | 11 | 40



Cypher - SECRET.

A.

13

To P.A. BAHREIN.

21.6.40.

From A.H.Q., 'Iraq.

W/T Important.

Departure of Arab Levy Officer selected for duty with Special Police Force BAHREIN, delayed on account of Pass-port difficulties. Embassy hopes to arrange for him to leave BASRAH on 28 June.

See - 191-

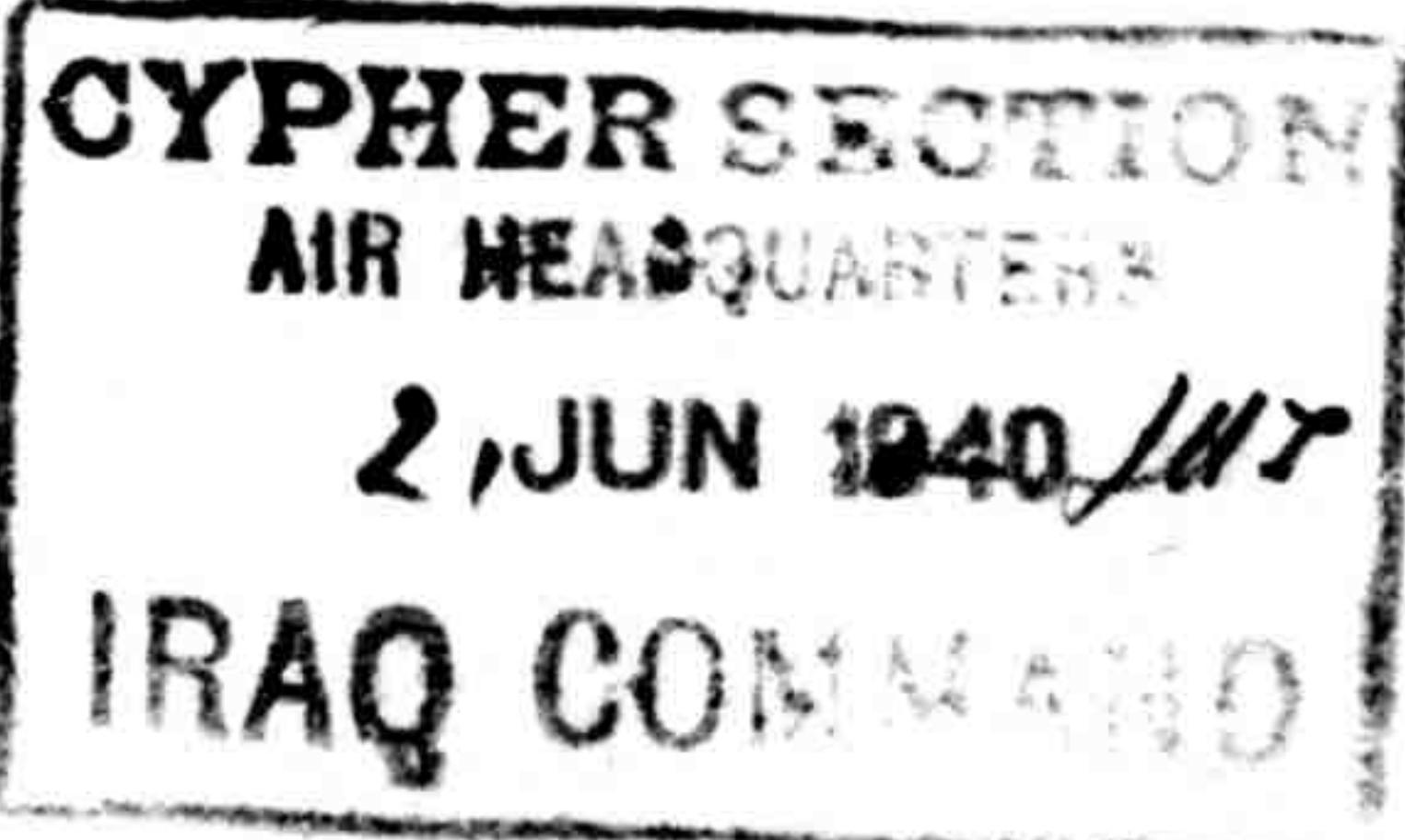
TOO 0956 GMT.

23/6 ASR 22/6

John
Major, G.S.O. II.

Copy to: ~~British Embassy~~ per Routine Val.

(Ref: A.H.Q. 5585/39/ST d/d. 15.6.40.)



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TELEGRAM.

14

CRYPTER

CODE R

From:— H.M.Consul,
Basra.

To:— H.M.Ambassador,
Bagdad.

Despatched 21st June 1940
13.00 hrs.

Received 21st June 1940
19.00 hrs.

No. 18

of 21st June 1940

Following for Mr. Freese Pennefather

Reference our telephone conversations

Regret it has not proved possible to obtain
passport for [Lewis] ^{Lewis} Warrant Officer through local
channels.

Action has been taken d-191-

B.F. June 26.
26/6

AMR
22/6

AHM
MWR
RK

INDEX

Copy to AHQ with comps. (ref. -/8/-)
" MM with comps.

URGENT.

✓ No. 276.

15-

Note Verbale.

His Majesty's Embassy presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the honour to request their kind assistance in the following matter.

2. The Bahrain Government desire to recruit the services of a police officer to serve with the special local police force which is now being raised in Bahrain. It has been suggested by the Political Agent, Bahrain, and the Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, has agreed, that an Arab Levy Officer would be suitable for this purpose and, accordingly, Zabit Alwan ibn Firhan, an Iraqi subject, born at Amara in 1909, who has served with the Iraq Levies for five years, has been provisionally selected.

3. The Embassy has the honour to enquire whether the Iraqi Government would agree to his proceeding to Bahrain for this purpose and authorise the Passport Officer at Basra to issue the necessary travel documents to him in order that he may leave Basra for Bahrain as early as possible.

His Majesty's Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew the expression of its highest consideration.

W.L.
British Embassy,

Bagdad.

20th June, 1940.

ASH/FP
IY
RK

4/1
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URGENT

16

AIR HEADQUARTERS,
BRITISH FORCES IN 'IRAQ,Reference:-
5585/39/ST.HABBANIYA, 15th. June, 1940.

To:-

The British Embassy,
BAGHDAD.ZABIT, ALWAN IBN FIRHAN.

Zabit ALWAN ibn FIRHAN of the Arab Company stationed at BASRAH, has been selected as the Arab Levy Officer to proceed to BAHREIN on discharge, for service with the BAHREIN Government, in connection with the Special Local Police Force now being raised there.

2. It was hoped to send this officer to BAHREIN by the Mail Boat which left BASRAH on 14th. June, 1940. It appears, however, that the local authorities will not grant him a passport, and it is requested that arrangements, for him to be allowed to leave the country, as a special case, may be made by you direct with the Iraqi authorities concerned.

3. If possible, Zabit ALWAN ibn FIRHAN should sail by the next Slow Mail due to leave BASRAH on the 21st. June, 1940.

4. As Zabit ALWAN ibn FIRHAN is stationed at BASRAH, he should not be required to report to BAGHDAD, before departure. Would the Director of Passports, BAGHDAD, therefore, instruct the Iraqi Passport Officer, at BASRAH, to issue the necessary passport, or other document, which will enable the above named to proceed to BAHREIN.

5. Particulars of this Levy Officer are as follows:-

- (i) - Name:- ALWAN. Born in 1909.
- (ii) - Father's Name:- FIRHAN.
- (iii) - Place of birth:- AMARA.
- (iv) - Nationality:- 'IRAQI.
- (v) - Married or Single:- SINGLE.
- (vi) - Number of Years Service with the Iraq Levies. FIVE.

H. P. E.

This is what the officer on the one mentioned

at -17/-, but since

AHQ + Bahrain have

AIR VICE MARSHAL,
COMMANDING, BRITISH FORCES IN 'IRAQ.

been in direct contact, this is in use for -5
months. We sh? were awaiting the officer's return
however but may be still in

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APP

26/6

(289/7/40)

17

SECRET AND URGENT

289 | 3 | 40 { With reference to their Secret Memorandum
No. S.10547/1/Air 0 of the 16th March, His Majesty's
Embassy has to inform Air Headquarters that the Bahrain
289 | 6 | 40 { Government have intimated their desire to recruit the
services of Zabit Mehadi Sad and are prepared to pay
travelling allowances for this officer.

2. The Embassy will be grateful if Air Headquarters
will now approach Zabit Mehadi Sad with a view to learning
whether this officer is prepared to serve the Bahrain
Government and if they will then inform the Embassy as
early as possible of the result of their enquiries, since
the Political Agent has requested that the approximate
date of Zabit Mehadi Sad's arrival may be communicated to
him by telegraph.

3. It is suggested that Air Headquarters should
communicate direct with the Political Agent, Bahrain,
regarding details of pay, rations, quarters, etc.

125
British Embassy,
Bagdad.

23rd May, 1940.

ASH/FP
GG
RK

INDEX



SECRET

18

No. C/422 - 1.a/43

Dated the 18th May 1940.



Dear Chancery,

Will you please refer to your secret letter No. 289/4/40 dated the 27th March 1940 to the Bushire Residency and their letter No. 176-S dated the 18th April to you regarding the provision of an officer from the Iraq Levies for the Bahrain Special Police.

2. The Bahrain Government have now informed me that they would like to have Zabit Mehadi Sad and that they would of course pay travelling allowance for him. Could Air Headquarters be informed of this and asked now to approach the officer; and if he himself is prepared to come here could arrangements be made to send him as soon as possible and let me have a telegram informing me when he is likely to arrive.

3. It would probably save time and trouble if Air Headquarters would communicate with me direct regarding details of pay, rations, quarters, etc.

Yours ever,

Agency.

British Embassy,
Baghdad.

M. L. L.

AKK
22/V

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289

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Secret.

The Residency,

19

Bushire, the 18th April, 1940.

No.176-S.



Dear Chancery,

Many thanks for your letter No. 289/4/40, dated the 27th March 1940, regarding the suggested provision of an officer from the Iraq Levies for the Bahrain Special Police.

2. In order to avoid delay we are sending a copy of your letter and of its enclosure to the Political Agent, Bahrain, with a request that he will deal with the matter in direct correspondence with you.

Yours ever,

Residency.

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Bagdad.

X 45:15



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(289/4/40).

20

SECRET.

27th March, 1940.

Dear Residency,

289 | 1 | 40 { Your letter No. C/156 of the 24th February last regarding the suggested provision of an officer from the Iraq Levies for permanent duty in the special police force which is being recruited for the purpose of protecting the oil field and refinery in Bahrain.

289 | 2 | 40 { 2. We took this matter up with Air Headquarters and in so doing suggested that an Arab officer would probably be better than an Assyrian for your purposes. We enclose a copy of their letter recommending an Arab officer named Zabit Mehadi Sad, and would be grateful if you would let us know what reply you would wish us to return.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

FP/VH/FP/RK
RK

Political Residency,

BUSHIRE.

22 | 4

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MEMORANDUM.S E C R E T.From:— Air Headquarters,
British Forces in 'Iraq.

To:— The British Embassy, BAGHDAD.

Date:— ~~6~~ March, 1940.

Ref. :— S.10547/1/Air O.

DEFENCE OF BAHREIN.

With reference to your 289/2/40 dated 12th March, 1940 on the subject of the provision of a Levy officer for permanent duty in the Special Police Force which is now being recruited for the purpose of protecting the oil field and Refinery in BAHREIN against sabotage.

2. It is considered that a Levy officer would be most suitable for the appointment, and that an Arab Levy Officer should be selected rather than an Assyrian.

3. The O.C., 'Iraq Levies recommends an Arab Officer named ZABIT MEHADI SAD, who was enlisted in 1932 and promoted to Officer rank in 1938. His present age is 37 and he is now employed as Machine Gun officer in his Company at BASRAH.. Besides being a good Machine Gun Instructor he is a good rifle shot and can read and write. He is due for re-engagement (1 year at a time) on 15th June, 1940, and in the ordinary course of events would be re-engaged on this date. He can, however, be released from service at any time before 15th June, 1940.

4. It is suggested that, subject to this officer's willingness to accept the appointment, he should be sent to BAHREIN in the first instance for a period of one month's probation so as to safeguard the interests of both the BAHREIN Government and the individual. During this period of probation there is no objection to his being paid as a Levy officer, as he can be shown as being on "temporary instruction duty". Regarding the rates of pay, etc, it is suggested that a British Levy Officer from the 'Iraq Levies should go to BAHREIN during the early part of the probation period, where he can discuss details of pay, rations, married quarters, leave and bonus concessions on retirement. His present rate of pay is I.D.11.250 per mensem, plus rations and quarters. In addition he is entitled on retirement to a bonus of one month's pay for every year's service.

5. It is presumed that the BAHREIN Government would be willing to pay Travelling Allowances for the Arab Levy Officer during the probationary period if it is not found possible to send him by air.

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/Continued.

6. It is not intended to approach this Arab Levy Officer until your reply is received.

H. G. Smart.

Air Vice Marshal,
Commanding British Forces in Iraq.

Bahrain

289 | 2 | 40 . 22

(289/2/40)

SECRET.

(289 | 1 | 40.) His Majesty's Embassy transmits to Air Headquarters herewith a copy of a secret letter from the Office of the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf regarding the employment by the Bahrain Government of an Arabic-speaking officer to serve in the special police force which is now being recruited for the purpose of protecting the oil field and refinery in Bahrain against sabotage.

2. The Embassy will be grateful for the observations of Air Headquarters on the proposal to recruit a Levy officer for this purpose and suggests that an Arab Levy officer might be more suitable than an Assyrian. The Office of the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf may not be aware of the existence of Arab Levy Companies.

Am
British Embassy,

Bagdad.

18th March, 1940.

ASH

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Bahrain.

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SECRET.

Office of the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf,

Camp, BAHRAIN.

No.C/156



Dated the 24th February 1940.

Dear Chancery,

D.S. ~~qq discuss with W.C. J. J.~~
Sue. ~~Copy sent to A.H.Q.~~
8/iii with 289 | 2 | 40.)

A special police force consisting of 50 Bahrainis is now being recruited for the purpose of protecting the Oil Field and Refinery in Bahrain against sabotage. These men will be permanently located in the Oil Field Area. Although this force will be under the general control of the Gulf Defence Officer (a British officer) he will not be able to devote all his time to the special police. In these circumstances the Bahrain Government have decided to employ an Arabic speaking officer who can undertake, as a whole time duty, not only the training of this force, but also its entire "care and maintenance".

2. It is believed that the Iraq Levies enjoy an excellent reputation and that it might be possible to obtain from them an Assyrian officer who has just retired or is approaching retirement age. The Bahrain Government would meet the pay and all travelling allowances of such an officer, but since we are not aware of the rates of pay in the Iraq Levies we are unable to suggest a definite figure. It is realized, however, that it will probably be necessary to offer 25% more than the rate of pay sanctioned for a mulazim thani or second lieutenant in the Levies.

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Baghdad.

Copy to :-
The Political Agent,
Bahrain.

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End

3. We should be very grateful if you could ascertain whether such an officer is available and the terms of service which he would accept. He would be required to join as early as possible. Could you very kindly reply to the Bahrain Agency with a copy to us ?

Yours ever,
RESIDENCY.

